



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services  
Division of Public Health

Pat McCrory  
Governor

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Secretary

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Acting Division Director

**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Health Directors, Directors of Nursing, Nursing Supervisors, and STD Enhanced Role Registered Nurses

**From:** Vivian Mears, RN, BSN  
Tammy DuBrey, RN, BSN  
STD TATP Nurse Consultants  
Communicable Disease Branch

**Date of Report:** November 12, 2015

**Subject:** Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Lab and Treatment Standing Order Templates

After great consideration of the 2015 CDC STD Treatment Guidelines, guidance from the NC Board of Nursing and Phyllis Rocco, Branch Head, NC Public Health Nursing & Professional Development Local Technical Assistance & Training Branch, Drs. Victoria Mobley and Heidi Swygard, the new STD Lab and Treatment Standing Order templates are now published in the online North Carolina Sexually Transmitted Diseases Public Health Program Manual.

A reference list and an updated Asymptomatic & Symptomatic Male Urethritis Algorithm are also posted. The templates are available at the following URL: <http://epi.publichealth.nc.gov/cd/lhds/manuals/std/toc.html>. The Lab Standing Orders can be found by clicking on the Laboratory Testing and Standing Order tab and the Treatment Standing Orders are located under the Treatment Guidelines and Standing Orders tab.

These documents are written in the NC Board of Nursing's Standing Order Format to allow currently rostered STD Enhanced Role Registered Nurses and other registered nurses working in local public health department STD clinics to function within their scope of nursing practice. These templates are for guidance only. Please assure each standing order is tailored to reflect actual clinical practice within your agency. Many standing order templates include sections **requiring** a local decision to be made to complete the standing order and/or **additional** policies and procedures to be written and approved to support the standing order. The Medical Director has the ultimate responsibility for assuring the agency's standing orders comply with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the NC Division of Public Health's current recommendations. All standing orders are required to be reviewed and signed annually, when there is a treatment/screening change and/or when there is a change of Medical Directors.

The CDC's STD Treatment Guidelines, 2015 has many changes. Major changes are listed below, but are not all-inclusive:

1. Alternative treatments for Neisseria gonorrhoea.
  - a. Doxycycline is no longer a first line recommendation for dual treatment with Rocephin. Only when a true anaphylactic reaction to azithromycin has occurred and has been documented in the client medical record, should treatment include doxycycline.

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- b. Monotherapy - Azithromycin 2 gms. is no longer recommended.
- 2. The Nucleic Acid Amplification Test (NAAT) is preferred over GC culture when available.
- 3. NAAT is acceptable for the diagnosis of vaginal trichomoniasis.
- 4. Podophyllin is no longer recommended for the treatment of genital warts due to toxicity.
- 5. Mycoplasma genitalium has been shown to have an increased role in urethritis/cervicitis and treatment related implications than previously thought.
- 6. The diagnostic criteria for urethritis has been revised:. NGU should be reported if  $\geq 2$  WBCs/hpf are detected on a Gram stain. The previous criteria was  $\geq 5$  WBCs/hpf
- 7. Retesting three months after treatment is being emphasized for early detection of reinfection.
- 8. There is increased concern about emerging drug resistant organisms.

If you have any questions about the standing orders, please contact Tammy DuBrey, RN or your CD TATP Nursing Consultant.